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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In rc Application of:

James O. Farmer, et al.

Serial No.: 09/899,410

Filed: July 5, 2001

For: System and Method for Communicating

Optical Signals between a Data Service

Provider and Subscribers

Group Art Unit: 2633

Examiner: Bello, Agustin

Proliminary Amendment

BOX-NON FEE Amendment Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20201 February 20, 2003

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the application as follows and consider the application in view of these amendments and appended remarks.

In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to BOX-NON FEE Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, Attention: Exr. Bello, GAU 2633, Facsimile No. (703) 872-9314, on February 20, 2003.

Steven P. Wigmord, Reg. No. 40,447

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